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"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING
GROUP 1771"

DOCKET NO.: 197173US0PCT

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1771 AS

OBLON
SPIVAK
McCLELLAND
MAIER & NEUSTADT
P.C.

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/623,474
Applicants: Masamoto UENISHI et al
Filing Date: September 13, 2000
For: COMPOSITE HOLLOW FIBER MEMBRANE AND
METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME
Group Art Unit: 1771
Examiner: Victor CHANGE

RECEIVED
JUL 10 2003
GROUP 1700

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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SIR:


Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116 WITH ATTACHED MARKED-UP COPY

Our check in the amount of -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R §1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


Norman F. Oblon

Registration No. 24,618

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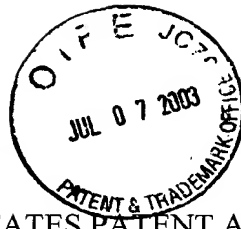


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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IN RE APPLICATION OF :

Masamoto UENISHI et al :

GROUP ART UNIT: 1771

SERIAL NO.: 09/623,474 :

EXAMINER: Victor CHANGE

FILED: September 13, 2000 :

FOR: COMPOSITE HOLLOW FIBER MEMBRANE AND METHOD OF
PRODUCING THE SAME

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the final Office Action dated April 4, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A composite hollow fiber membrane comprising three or more layers of membrane comprising a three-dimensional net structure comprising a plurality of micropores comprising stacked lamella and micro fibrils connected with the stacked lamella, wherein

one or more dense layer(s), said dense layer(s) being thinner than an outermost layer and an innermost layer and said dense layer(s) comprising micropores of a mean pore